



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

News Release

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ICE APPREHENDS ONE OF MEXICO'S "MOST WANTED" FUGITIVES

-- Murder Suspect Returned to Mexico Late Last Night --

NEWARK, N.J. -- Michael J. Garcia, the Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), today announced that an ICE Fugitive Operations team has captured one of Mexico's most wanted fugitives and promptly removed him to Mexico.

At approximately 6 a.m. yesterday morning, members of the Newark ICE Detention and Removal Operations (DRO) Fugitive Operations team arrested Librado Herrera-Perez without incident in South Orange, New Jersey. The South Orange Police Department assisted in the arrest.

Herrera-Perez, age 31, is a Mexican national wanted for homicide by the First Court for Criminal and Civil Matters in the city of Putla de Guerrero, Oaxaca, Mexico. He is considered one of Mexico's most wanted fugitives. Mexican authorities accuse Herrera-Perez of involvement in a shootout with Mexican police and a public execution-style shooting death of a 25-year-old man on February 28, 2002.

After arresting Herrera-Perez, ICE officials determined that he was an undocumented alien with no pending applications. The suspect subsequently requested a Stipulated Removal Order, which was approved by an Immigration Judge, enabling him to be quickly removed from the United States. ICE officers escorted Herrera-Perez on a flight from Newark to Mexico City, where he was met by Mexican authorities last night.

"The arrest of Herrera-Perez is the latest example of ICE's relentless campaign to locate, apprehend and remove criminal alien fugitives from this country," said Assistant Secretary Garcia. "The apprehension is also testament to our strong working relationship with Mexican authorities. Criminal fugitives from Mexico should not expect to find any safe haven in the United States."

The Mexican Attorney General's liaison office at the Mexican Embassy in Washington, D.C. noted, that the case of Librado Herrera-Perez was a good example of bi-national cooperation in the field of law enforcement, showing specific results of the continuous work carried out with ICE. "We are determined to continue these efforts against people who break the law and try to evade justice elsewhere," said Jaime Ortiz, the deputy legal attaché at the Mexican Embassy.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.